

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 14930 172135Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 MCE-00 AID-05 ACDA-12
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08
COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /108 W
-----025607 180600Z /14

R 171400Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2786
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 14930

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, PCAT, SO, FR, KE
SUBJECT: FRENCH ARMS SALES TO SOMALIA

REF: NAIROBI 14767

1. AT AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION FOR CODEL PRICE NOVEMBER 16, SIMEON SHITEMI, HEAD AMERICAS AND UN DIVISION IN FONMIN, COMPLAINED BITTERLY TO POLOFF RE FRENCH DECISION SELL ARMS TO SOMALIA. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE WAS REFERRING TO SALE OF SMALL ARMS HIGHLIGHTED BY PRESS AND REPORTED REFTTEL, HE REPLIED "THE ARMS ARE AS UNLIMITED AS THE SAUDI DOLLAR."

2. SHITEMI PLEADED FOR U.S. TO RESTRAIN FRANCE, TO WHICH POLOFF REPLIED FRANCE SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENT WHICH MAKES OWN DECISIONS IN SUCH MATTERS. POLOFF EMPHASIZED US AND UK DECISION NOT TO SUPPLY ARMS TO SOMALIA.

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3. AT SAME RECEPTION FRG AMBASSADOR TO UGANDA FROEWIS (HERE ON VISIT) EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINION TO POLOFF, IN PRESENCE FRENCH CHARGE, THAT US SHOULD OFFER ARMS TO SOMALIA NOW THAT SOVIETS THROWN OUT. POLOFF, AFTER DEFENDING US AND UK POSITIONS NOT TO SUPPLY ARMS WHILE OGADEN FIGHTING CONTINUES, TURNED TO FRENCH CHARGE FOR HIS VIEW. HIS CONTRIBUTION WAS "WE HAVE NOT YET MADE DECISION."

4. KENYANS HAVE HAD REPORT OF FRENCH DEAL TO SELL ARMS
TO SOMALIA (ACCORDING TO UK DEFENSE ADVISOR, THEY HAVE EXCELLENT
INTELLIGENCE ON SOMALI ACTIVITIES) AND FRENCH WILL RETAIN LITTLE
CREDIBILITY HERE IF THEY CANNOT PRODUCE CONVINCING EVIDENCE THAT
SOMALI ARMS DEAL IS OFF.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SALES, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB14930
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771148/aaaabogy.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Subject: FRENCH ARMS SALES TO SOMALIA
TAGS: PBOR, PCAT, SO, FR, KE
To: STATE
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